

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An actuator assembly comprising:
an actuator block including at least one actuator arm extending therefrom;
a circuit board or portion coupled to the actuator block; and
a damping assembly interfaced between the actuator block and the circuit board or portion.
2. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damper assembly comprises at least one rigid damper plate.
3. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 2 wherein the damping assembly includes a plurality of rigid damper plates.
4. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 3 and further comprising an adhesive layer interposed between the plurality of rigid damper plates.
5. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly includes at least one damper pad.
6. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 5 wherein the damper pad is formed of a viscoelastic material.
7. (original) The actuator assembly of claim 3 wherein the plurality of rigid damper plates includes a first damper plate, a second damper plate and a third damper plate each of the first, second and third damper plates have a progressively larger dimension in a direction away from an interface surface of the actuator block.

~~7.8.~~ (currently amended) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly is positioned proximate to an circuit interface portion of the actuator block and the circuit interface portion includes a window and the damping assembly include at least one rigid damper plate proximate to the window-.

~~8.9.~~ (currently amended) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein circuit interface portion includes a plurality of ribs forming a recess and the circuit board or portion abuts the plurality of ribs and the damping assembly is seated in the recess between the circuit board and the actuator block.

~~9.10.~~ (currently amended) A servo writing apparatus comprising:
 a spindle assembly;
 a servo writing assembly including an actuator assembly including at least one head coupled thereto;
 a circuit board or portion coupled to the actuator assembly; and
 a damping assembly interposed between the actuator assembly and the circuit board or portion.

~~10.11.~~ (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim ~~9~~10 wherein the damping assembly includes a plurality of rigid damper plates.

~~11.12.~~ (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim ~~10~~11 wherein the plurality of rigid damper plates are coupled via an adhesive layer.

~~12.13.~~ (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim ~~10~~11 wherein the damping assembly further includes damper pads which abut an interface surface of the actuator assembly.

~~13.14.~~ (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim ~~10~~11 wherein the plurality of rigid damper plates have a progressively larger thickness dimension in a direction away from an interface surface of the actuator assembly.

~~14.15.~~ (currently amended) The servo writing apparatus of claim ~~10~~11 wherein the plurality of rigid damping plates includes a first damping plate, a second damping plate and a third damping plate having different thickness dimensions.

~~15.16.~~ (currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

aligning a circuit board or portion relative to an interface surface on an actuator block;
interposing a damping assembly between the circuit board or portion and the interface surface; and
securing the circuit board or portion relative to the interface surface of the actuator block having the damping assembly between the circuit board or portion and the actuator block.

~~16.17.~~ (currently amended) The method of claim ~~15~~16 and further comprising the step of:

adhesively securing a plurality of rigid damper plates to form the damping assembly.

~~17.18.~~ (currently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~17 and further comprising the step of:

adhesively securing at least one damper pad relative to the plurality of damper plates; and
aligning the at least one damper pad to abut the interface surface of the actuator block.